



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Lhing-Yew Li, et al.

Serial No.: 10/067,974

Filed: February 8, 2002

**PATENT APPLICATION**

POLYNUCLEOTIDE CONSTRUCTS  
ENCODING ASPARTATE KINASE,  
ASPARTATE-SEMIALDEHYDE  
DEHYDROGENASE, AND  
DIHYDRODIPICOLINATE REDUCTASE  
AND RELATED CONSTRUCTS, PRODUCTS,  
AND METHODS

Group Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Steadman, David J.

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**FOURTH RESPONSE AFTER FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This is a response to the Official Action mailed on May 1, 2006 and having a shortened statutory deadline for reply of August 1, 2006. This document is also filed in response to the Advisory Action mailed by the Office on August 9, 2006, to the second Advisory Action mailed by the Office on September 21, 2006, and to the third Advisory Action mailed by the Office on October 23, 2006. It is believed an extension of time of three months is necessary to make this response timely, and a petition and the fee for same are included herein. Any underpayment or overpayment of fees should be deducted from or added to Deposit Account No. 02-4800, in the name of Buchanan Ingersoll PC.

The Examiner's objections and rejections in this case have been carefully considered and in view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims is courteously requested. Applicants' response takes into account the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 116 and is intended to place into condition for allowance (or in better condition for appeal) those claims previously indicated as allowable by the Examiner. Applicants' response further takes into account that none of the previous amendments submitted after the May 1, 2006 Final Official Action were entered. Please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** being on page 7 of this paper.

**Conclusion** begins on page 8.